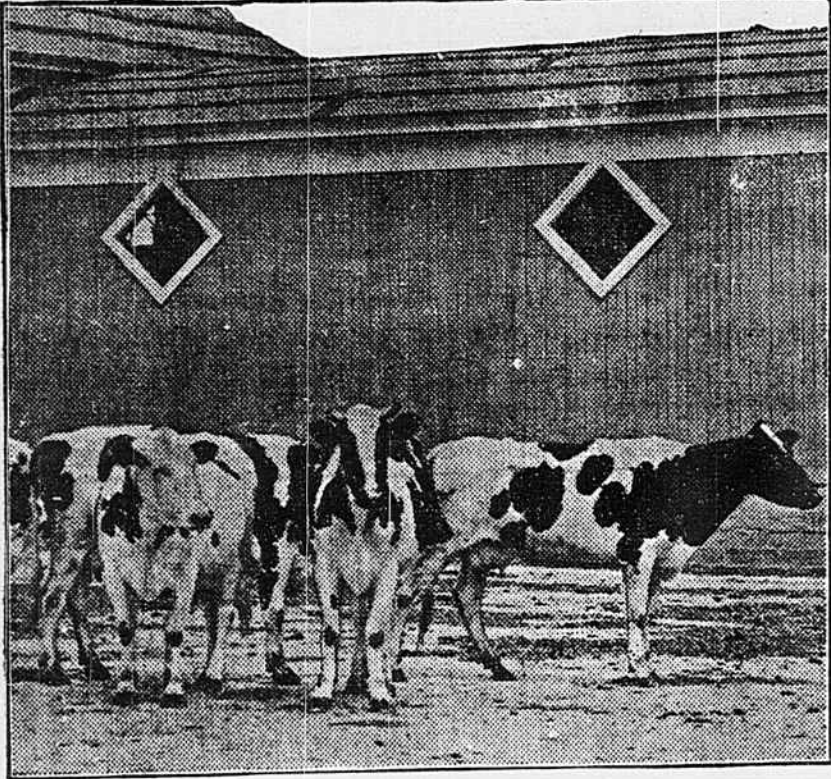


## FIRST DAIRY ESSENTIAL IS HEALTHY HERD



An Excellent Bunch of Dairy Cows.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)

Clean milk is defined by the United States department of agriculture as milk from healthy cows—that is free from dirt and contains only a small number of bacteria, none of which is of the disease-producing nature. It is the duty of the producer, as well as to his advantage, to furnish such milk. It is the duty of the consumer to understand that clean, safe milk costs more to produce than dirty milk and that he should therefore be willing to pay more for it.

All milk contains some bacteria. If, however, when the milk reaches the consumer it is found to contain large numbers of bacteria it is evident that it is not fresh or that it has come from a diseased cow or has been handled under insanitary conditions, or has not been kept sufficiently cool during transit. Milk of this character may have the flavor and appearance of the clean product, and be at the same time extremely dangerous. Even where the germs of such a specific disease as typhoid fever are not present, dirty milk may result in digestive disturbances that are especially dangerous to children and persons in weak health.

To produce clean milk the first essential is a healthy herd. Cows should be tested for tuberculosis at least once a year, and if diseased animals are found, twice a year. All infected cows should be removed at once from the herd and the stable and premises thoroughly disinfected. When new animals are purchased for the herd they should be tested for tuberculosis before being brought to the farm, and even then it is better to keep them separate from the other animals for at least sixty days, at the expiration of which period they should be retested. These precautions are not only necessary to insure the consumer from infected milk, but to protect the cattle owner from the serious losses that follow the spread of tuberculosis throughout the herd.

Even when the herd is in perfect health the milk is frequently contaminated on account of the external condition of the animal. It is therefore essential that the cow be kept free from accumulations of mud and manure. Custom demands that a horse be properly groomed, but from a sanitary standpoint it is far more essential that a cow should be. Milch cows on pasture should be brushed before each milking period. When kept in the stable they require a thorough cleaning at least once a day. This should not be done, however, immediately before milking, as it frequently results in filling the stable air with dust and bacteria. It is also desirable to clip the long hair from the udder, flanks and tail, as these are very likely to become dirty.

The bedding should be clean and dry and sufficient in quantity to make the cow comfortable, especially on a concrete floor. The distribution of bedding, however, is fully as important as the quantity. It will frequently be found that a few minutes' attention to this the last thing at night will save a considerable amount of time cleaning the cows in the morning. The manure should be removed each day to a considerable distance from the stable. This not only keeps bad odors from tainting the milk, but will diminish the danger of contamination by flies, which breed in accumulations of manure. No animals except cows should be allowed in the stable.

The character of the milk is also affected by the feed. Obviously, moldy and decayed feed should be carefully avoided. In addition, however, the dairyman must remember that foods, such as rape, cabbage and turnips, which have strong odors, may impart disagreeable flavors and odors to the milk. They can, however, be used with comparative safety if care is used to feed only after milking. This is also true of the wild onion pest, and where pastures are overrun with it it is advisable to remove the cows several hours before milking.

Good silage is now considered a satisfactory food. It was formerly thought that it affected unfavorably the flavor of milk, but there is no reason why this should be the case if the feed is of a good character and given in reasonable amounts after milking. All uneaten silage should be removed in order that the odor may disappear from the stable before the next milking time. From a sanitary standpoint it is always best to feed after milking

rather than before, in order to avoid the presence of dust and odors.

The water supply is a factor too frequently neglected. It is of prime importance that the cows have an abundance of fresh, pure water. There are instances on record where heavy milkers have consumed more than three hundred pounds of water per day; and 75 pounds or more is actually required by cows that produce 25 pounds of milk. Ice-cold water is as bad for animals as for human beings, and in extremely severe weather it may be found necessary to warm the water slightly in order to induce the cows to drink a sufficient quantity. Obviously the water trough should be clean and sheltered as much as possible from the weather.

In view of the comparatively narrow margin of profit in producing milk, it will seem impracticable to many producers to burden themselves with the increased expense involved in such precautions as these. It must be remembered, however, that in addition to the duty to the community which the producer owes, the importance of pure milk is being more and more appreciated by the consuming public, and that this appreciation will bring valuable returns to the dairyman who complies with the rising sanitary standards. Not only are a better class of patrons and a steadier market secured, but the health of the farm family, which uses a large portion of the milk itself, is safeguarded; the health of the calves, which live on the milk, is improved, and the whole herd protected from disease. Stricter methods of cost keeping and the elimination of all unprofitable cows will help offset the extra expense of producing clean, wholesome milk.

### FEEDING VALUE OF THE SILO

Indispensable to Man Who Buys Steers to Fatten—Silage Preferred to Dry Corn Fodder.

Those farmers who have never studied the silo question, naturally do not know how much money they are losing every year in their feeding operations. No man who buys steers to fatten can afford to be without a silo.

It is a poor cornfield that will not yield an average of from ten to fifteen tons of green corn per acre. If this is cut into silage, it will make a sure profit, at present prices of cattle, at from thirty to thirty-four dollars per acre.

It has been demonstrated conclusively that silage-fed steers bring more money on the big market than those that are fattened on whole corn. It is also a fact well known to experienced feeders that silage saves grain and hay.

It is true that corn fodder contains, under chemical tests, more protein, carbohydrates and fattening material than silage, but the fact remains that steers do not get all of the benefit from corn fodder, while about everything that is valuable as feed is consumed in the silage.

Then silage, being quite bulky, is an excellent feed given in connection with ground grains and heavy meals, as it aids greatly in their digestion.

Another thing, steers like silage. It tastes good to them, and they eat it with avidity.

A steer prefers silage to dry corn fodder just as a boy prefers pie to dry corn bread, but in the case of the steer, the silage is better food for him than the pie is for the boy.

Place silage and dry corn fodder before a bunch of steers, and they will not touch the latter until they have entirely disposed of the first. This is an important factor in feeding, because palatability adds to digestive qualities of feed, and the more a steer digests the more fat he will put on.

**Milk at Regular Times.**  
There is a marked value in doing the milking at regular times. Those who have made a study of their cows know that cows are very regular in their habits. They go to the pasture about such a time each day, and they come back with the same regularity.

**Rations for Layers.**  
A good ration for pullets is composed of equal parts of cracked corn and clean whole wheat. This should be fed from a hopper.

## CAULIFLOWER EVER POPULAR

Grown to Some Extent Under Glass for Winter and Spring Markets—Seed Imported From Europe.

Cauliflower is given much attention by truck farmers and to some extent is grown under glass for winter and early spring markets. Field cultivation is in vogue generally, however, and long after this crop is harvested on the Atlantic coast, fresh cauliflower may be seen in the big cities arriving from California almost daily, thus making this delicious vegetable available a large part of the year. Some truck farmers grow as many as fifty or sixty acres annually and ready for market in late summer and early autumn.

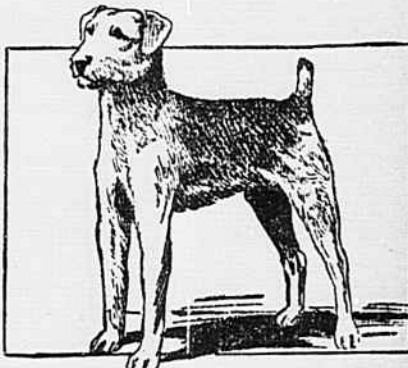
A large part of cauliflower seed is imported from Europe, and the war makes the supply for another season very uncertain. Denmark and Holland produce large quantities of cauliflower seed, but it is also grown in other European countries. The most important part of cauliflower cultivation is the growing of the plants, says Orange Judd Farmer. A heavy loam with a gravelly subsoil is considered the most favorable for this crop. Yet good yields are often secured on light, sandy soil. Under glass, cauliflower can be produced in eight weeks from the growing of the seed, of course commanding high prices; the young plants are set when about four inches high and between them in alternate rows lettuce is planted, as these two vegetables grow together with harmony, requiring much the same temperature.

### TEACHING FARM DOGS EARLY

Never Punish a Pup Unless He Can Associate Punishment With the Offense—Use Common Sense.

It is a good thing with farm dogs to teach them early in life to associate with the other farm animals and with the chickens, especially. I have found it useful to take puppies with me into the poultry runs, keeping a sharp eye on them. By and by the constant association with the fowls kills the novelty and they pay no attention to them.

It may surprise some people to be told that dogs have a strong sense of



An Airedale Terrier, Excellent Type for Farm.

justice, so, unless you want your pup to gain a poor opinion of you be careful when you punish him. Never punish unless the pup can associate the punishment with the offense, says a writer in *Outing*. The circumstantial evidence may be very strong, but you had better wait and catch him in the act.

Common sense is about all that is required to rear a puppy into a dog which will be a faithful, useful, steadfast companion; common sense and consideration.

Whenever I find one of those "anything-will-do-for-the-pup" kind of people I can see in my mind's eye what the humans in that family look like.

### MORE INTEREST IN POULTRY

Nearby Village Shows Afford People Opportunity to Study Different Breeds of Various Fowls.

The interest in winter poultry shows increases fast each year. Little towns now have their winter and spring poultry shows. That most people, country and town alike, keep standard-bred poultry is the main reason for this. Those who keep any breed in the standard finally desire to know all there is to know of this breed, and how near to standard they are keeping their fowls. The nearby village poultry show gives them this chance, as good judges are selected to look after these shows. It gives you the chance to compare your stock with others; it builds up your interest in the business; you get new ideas on housing, feeding and caring for your fowls in ways to insure vigor. Go to all the poultry shows about, then take in some held in the large cities. Here you will come upon breeds of geese, turkeys, ducks or other fowls that it may pay you to keep.

### Double the Crop Yield.

The best authorities agree that the total of the crops raised from seed in the United States might be doubled by improved methods of farming. To do this would add \$4,000,000,000 to \$5,000,000,000 to the nation's wealth and the resources of its farm population. And one of the most important means to this end is the planting of good seed.

**Pure Seed Is Necessary.**  
Careful fertilization, thorough and repeated cultivation, first elements of success for the farmer though they are, cannot, of course, grow a good crop from poor seed. And of all the influences that keep the farmers of this country from realizing the full benefits of their labor, inferior seed is one of the most powerful.

## Home Town Helps

### SHOULD INTEREST ALL CITIES

Expert's Report on Conditions in Springfield, Ill., Worth a Lot of Consideration.

In the first part of his housing survey of Springfield, Ill., for the Sage foundation John Ihlder of the National Housing association highly commended the prevailing type of house in Springfield. In the third part he finds some features concerning which his comments are not so favorable.

"If Springfield is to remain what it now is, a city of homes, it must take other measures than merely discouraging barracks construction," reads the report. "We have reached a degree of civilization in America where an abundant and convenient supply of pure water and convenient sanitary water closets inside the house are considered necessities in any progressive community. Springfield's ideals are up to the standard. It has done a good deal to bring these twin necessities to the homes of its people. But it has not done enough to get the result actually aimed at."

The difficulties in the way of getting this result are admitted, "but in the case of a city, as of an individual, to give up because of difficulties argues weakness of character." Instances are quoted in the report wherein these difficulties have been overcome and the opinion is confidently expressed that Springfield can overcome them in the other districts. But this calls for determined effort and it is suggested that it is not enough to lay sewers and water mains in the streets. Houses must also be connected.

Just what the situation is now and what progress the city has made in the last few years will be learned through another division of the survey which, with the co-operation of the city department of health, is just completing an inspection of all premises in the city. But, though its complete results are not yet available, it is already seen that many houses are still not connected, although the opportunity to do so has been at hand for years.

The housing report says that the city authorities should take more vigorous action and that they should forbid the erection of multiple dwellings on streets without mains and sewers.

### FIRST OF SOCIAL REFORMS

Doctor Elliot Points Out Necessity for Proper Housing of Inhabitants of Any Community.

Dr. Charles W. Elliot, president emeritus of Harvard university, is an old man, but his scent for the basic evils of our civilization is much keener than that of many younger reformers who seem to be turning in a circle instead of getting at the center of things. One of the chief problems of our present-day civilization, according to Doctor Elliot, is the "dirty, filthy back alley flat."

Boston, New York, Chicago, he asserts, no longer permit great sections of their population to "live normally." The housing of workmen in these cities must undergo drastic changes or, as a nation, we will run the risk of drifting toward "a country-wide tendency to degeneracy." The expression could have strengthened his charge against defective housing conditions of the United States by citing not merely the largest cities, but also many of the smaller industrial towns. It has been pretty definitely established that slums grow up wherever large industries locate, and that an industrial town of 15,000 can have fully as bad, if not worse, housing conditions as an industrial city of 2,000,000 or more.

The reminder from the Cambridge savant that the home, or lack of a home, is at the root of many of the social ills which distress the country should serve to bring the subject of housing to the forefront of all social reform progress, where it belongs.

### Individual and Communal Health.

The health of the community depends upon the health of the citizens, but the health of each individual also depends in some measure—often in large measure—upon that of other members of the community. Health of the individual is, therefore, a condition that, generally speaking, can be maintained only by a combination of individual and community effort, and its importance is such that in the activities of the city and of the state it should hold a prominent place.—John W. Trask, Assistant Surgeon General United States Public Health Service.

### Older Cities More Beautiful.

The prevalence of artistic ideas in the city planning of past ages and in the much less successful efforts of the last generation can be explained by the fact that the city-planning work was done by either architects or landscape architects, both of whom were mainly trained to see esthetic values. But during the nineteenth century these artists have often been supplanted by surveyors or civil engineers. This is one of the reasons to explain the much greater success of artistic city planning in the past compared with the newer efforts.

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